

1983 Japan Song Festival Competition; and an award from the United Negro College Fund—1986.

Nancy Wilson, along with your millions of fans world-wide, and all of those whose lives you have touched with your generosity and selfless works, I thank you for the many contributions you have made.

#### LOWELL HIGH SCHOOL; A MODEL OF EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 1996*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. Department of Education has recognized Lowell High School in San Francisco, CA, as a Blue Ribbon School. As a Blue Ribbon School, Lowell High School serves as a shining example of high-quality education for the rest of the country. The school is 1 of only 266 throughout our entire Nation and only 39 in California to be selected for this high honor.

I invite my colleagues to join me in extending our most sincere admiration and congratulations for the wonderful educational environment that Lowell High School provides for our young Americans. I am indeed proud to have this outstanding institution in my congressional district.

Lowell High School has achieved this high honor through its persistent and highly effective pursuit of local, State and national education goals. These goals reflect the areas in which our educational institutions across the country are most in need of improvement. Lowell High School's remarkable success in overcoming some of the most difficult problems our schools face today makes it a perfect example for schools around the country to follow.

Lowell High School has been highly successful in fulfilling the necessary conditions of effective schooling. Through the dynamic and productive leadership of Principal Paul Cheng, Lowell High School has developed a nurturing teaching environment, a rigorous and engaging curriculum, a safe environment for students and teachers, and a healthy involvement of parents and the community in strengthening educational resources. Students from Lowell convincingly demonstrate the many benefits of a good schooling environment through impressive student performances on measures of achievement, attendance rates, and the varied and ambitious pursuits of graduates of the school.

Lowell High School is more than deserving of the recognition it has and will continue to receive as a Blue Ribbon School. I hope that other schools across the country will be able to learn by the example of Lowell how to confront some of the seemingly intractable problems facing our educational system. I also hope that, in recognizing Lowell High School, my colleagues recognize the necessity of making educational excellence one of our highest priorities in the U.S. Congress.

WE'RE WITH YOU KWEISI

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 1996*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and encourage a fellow Member and friend, the right Honorable KWEISI MFUME, on this the occasion of his acceptance of the challenge and opportunity of leading a great national organization, the NAACP. I will not restate all of the accomplishments of KWEISI MFUME as a man or a U.S. Representative. Others have done that quite eloquently. I just want to add that I believe that in his life and work, Mr. MFUME has set an example to which any of today's young people can proudly aspire. Each step he takes marks yet another significant achievement.

During his tenure in the House of Representatives, Congressman MFUME has consistently advocated landmark minority business and civil rights legislation. He has succeeded in focusing Congressional attention on a broad range of minority business development concerns in the United States. His work as chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus has been exemplary. And, we all look to his leadership in his role as chair of the CBC Task Force to Preserve Affirmative Action.

Those of us who have had the privilege of working closely with him over the years have come to admire his genteel grace and leadership. I know he will bring renewed stature to the NAACP.

God speed KWEISI MFUME, God speed.

#### A TRIBUTE TO GOVERNOR LUTALI

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 1996*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, all Americans, including those of us in Congress, are concerned about the destruction of the rain forests that is occurring all over the world. The rain forests constitute unique and irreplaceable ecosystems sometimes called the lungs of the earth. In addition to their function in replenishing the earth's atmosphere, the rain forests provide essential protection against global warming, contain hundreds of plants found nowhere else on earth, house many animals unique to the rain forests alone, and provide protection against destruction of coral reefs and marine life. I would like to call my colleagues' attention to a unique effort to save these vital systems and to an individual who is being honored for his own efforts to save the rain forests.

Seacology Foundation is a nonprofit foundation founded to help protect island ecosystems and island cultures. Seacology scientists include experts in endangered species, island flora and fauna, and island ecosystems. One hundred percent of the money donated to Seacology goes directly to building schools, hospitals, installing safe water supplies, and meeting the other needs of the indigenous people who live near the rain forests so that these people will not have to sell off the rain forest to survive. Seacology scientists donate their time as well.

The Honorable A.P. Lutali, Governor of American Samoa, has been selected to receive this year's Seacology Foundation Award as "Indigenous Conservationist of the Year" in recognition of his superb efforts to preserve the Samoan rain forest and indigenous Samoan culture. Governor Lutali's efforts include responsibility for passage of an act to protect the American Samoa flying fox and our joint work to create the U.S. National Park in American Samoa. As a letter from Seacology Foundation to Governor Lutali notifying him of the award explains, neither of these achievements would have occurred without the Governor's strong leadership and support.

I congratulate Governor Lutali and the Seacology Foundation for all of their efforts and I am submitting for the record a copy of a letter from Paul Alan Cox, Ph.D, chairman of the board of Seacology Foundation to Governor Lutali for review by my colleagues.

OCTOBER 24, 1995.

Governor A.P. LUTALI,  
*Office of the Governor, American Samoa Government, Pago Pago, American Samoa.*

DEAR GOVERNOR LUTALI: On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Scientific Advisory Board of the Seacology Foundation, it gives me great pleasure to inform you that you have been selected as the 1995 Indigenous Conservationist of the Year. This award, believed to be the only one of its kind in the world, annually recognizes an indigenous person who has demonstrated heroic efforts in protecting the environment. The Seacology Foundation invites you, at our expense, to attend an award dinner in your honor and a presentation ceremony in Provo, Utah to receive your award, which will consist of an engraved plaque and a cash award of \$1,000. Lorraine Clark, Executive Associate Director of the Seacology Foundation, will be in touch with Rob Shaffer from your staff to arrange a convenient date for this event.

In making this award, the Seacology Foundation wishes to recognize your personal courage and foresight in protecting the rainforests and wildlife of American Samoa. You have demonstrated your commitment to conservation in many different ways. Examples of your environmental leadership include passage of an act to protect flying foxes, including the rare Samoan Flying Fox, *Pteropus samoensis*, or *pe'a vao* by the Territorial Legislature of American Samoa. Your leadership was crucial in passing this legislation, which is believed to be the first legislation enacted by any Pacific island government to protect flying foxes. Because of your example, many other island governments have now enacted similar legislation.

Even more impressive was your visionary foresight in establishing the 50th National Park of the United States of America, the National Park of American Samoa. It was your leadership and your vision that brought together a coalition of Samoan school children, villagers, *matua* and other traditional community leaders, Territorial officials, scientists, conservationists, and U.S. Congressmen to create a new future for the people of American Samoa. You personally held meetings with key scientists and village leaders, you personally hosted a distinguished congressional delegation in Samoa, you personally traveled to Washington, D.C. to testify on behalf of the park and you personally provided leadership at every phase to assure passage of the enabling legislation. You exercised this leadership without any concern for its potential impact on your own political future. Because of your selflessness and bi-partisan approach, the American Samoa National Park Bill became one of the first